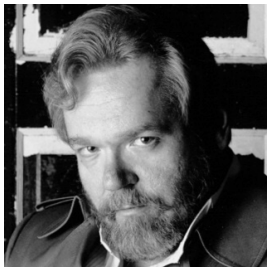
EIGHTCON SQUARED

Eastercon 64 • Bradford • 29th March - 1st April 2013

The Sixty-Fourth British National Science Fiction Convention

Cedar Court Hotel, Bradford



Walter Jon Williams

Freda Warrington

Anne Sudworth

Edward James

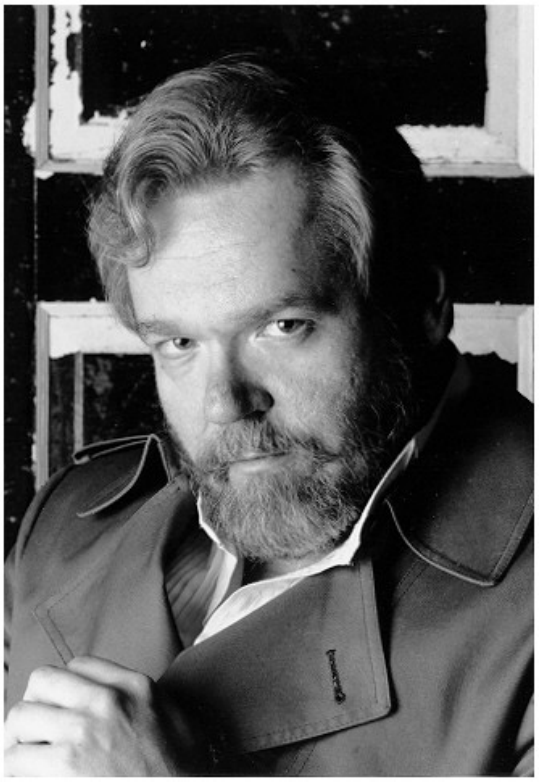
Welcome to Progress Report Zero for Eight Squared Con. If you're reading this at Olympus, we will just have been voted in as the 2013 Eastercon. Why PR Zero? Because, bidding only a year in advance instead of two, we have to hit the ground running, so we've produced a mini-PR to summarise our essential details: our venue, our Guests of Honour, and details of how to join and book rooms. Further PRs will follow, or you can keep track of what we're doing via our web site, Facebook page, LiveJournal community or Twitter account - see the back page for details.

Our Venue

For 2013 Eastercon will return to Bradford and the Cedar Court Hotel, venue for LX in 2009. The Cedar Court offers excellent function space, and the hotel management are very keen to have Eastercon back. We are delighted to be able to confirm that room rates have been held to their 2009 levels. As with LX, we will be relying in part on off-site accommodation, and have arranged accommodation with three other hotels, the Campanile, the Midland Hotel and the Jury's Inn. There will be a regular free transport shuttle between the Cedar Court and these other hotels, and we are hoping to build on the service offered by LX - although we are also anticipating that Bradford won't be digging up the town centre at Easter again, as they were in 2009!

Our Guests of Honour

Walter Jon Williams began publishing SF in the mid-1980s with *Knight Moves*, *Hardwired* and *Voice of the Whirlwind*. Since then books such as *Aristoi*, *Metropolitan, City On Fire* and *Implied Spaces* have been highly praised, and many of his novels and short stories have featured on Hugo and Nebula award shortlists; he won the 1996 Sidewise Award for 'Foreign Devils'. In the 'Dread Empire's Fall' series Williams tackled epic space opera, whilst his most recent trilogy begins with *This Is Not A Game*, continues with *Deep State* and concludes with *The Fourth Wall*. Extrapolating near-future uses and abuses of technology in the worlds of online gaming and entertainment, he explores the blurring of lines between politics and celebrity in SF thrillers, shifting from wry humour to compelling menace with the turn of a page.



Freda Warrington is the author of *Elfland, Midsummer Night, A Taste Of Blood Wine* among other fantasy novels and has just completed her twentieth book, *Grail Of The Summer Stars* for Tor (US). She has spent most of her life in Leicestershire, where a love of the ancient landscapes of Charnwood Forest inspired an early feeling for otherworldly atmospheres and storytelling. After training at Loughborough College of Art, she worked for several years in graphic design and medical art, along with a variety of other jobs in between writing. She also enjoys arts and crafts, all things Gothic, yoga and walking, Arabian horses, SF conventions and travelling with her husband Mike.

Anne Sudworth is internationally known for her magical trees and haunting moonlit landscapes. She has been drawing and painting since early childhood and started her career as a professional artist in 1993. Anne has since exhibited widely and her work can now be found in many collections around the world. Her dark, moody pastel paintings are deeply involved with nature and its more mystical aspects. She is also well known for her depiction of many of Britain's megalithic sites, including Avebury, Stonehenge and Castlerigg Stone Circle. In 2000 the first book on her work was published, *Enchanted World: The Art Of Anne Sudworth*, followed in 2007 by *Gothic Fantasies: The Paintings Of Anne Sudworth*.

Edward James is well-known for his discussion and critical appraisal of science fiction, through his time as editor of *Foundation*, as author of *Science Fiction In The Twentieth Century* and (with Farah Mendlesohn) *A Short History of Fantasy*, and as an editor of *The Cambridge Companion To Science Fiction, The Cambridge Companion To Fantasy* and *The Parliament Of Dreams: Conferring On Babylon 5*. Edward has also had a long involvement with British and Irish fandom, having joined the Birmingham SF Group in 1963, so Eight Squared Con will mark his fiftieth year in Fandom!

Membership

	Until 30 June 2012	1 July 2012 to 31 Jan 2013	From 1 Feb 2013
Adult Attending	£50	£60	£70
Adult Supporting	£25	£30	£35
Junior (12-17)	£25	no change	no change
Child (5-11)	£10	no change	no change
Infant (0-4)	£1	no change	no change
Apocryphal (soft toys etc.)	£1	no change	no change

An upgrade from Adult Supporting to Adult Attending always costs the difference between the two rates *at the time of upgrade*. So if you buy a supporting membership for £25 in May 2012, it will cost you £35 to upgrade it in February 2013.

There is no supporting rate for Junior and Infant memberships. Please note that all under-18s at the convention **must** be members and **must** be accompanied by an adult.

Day memberships are likely to be available and will be announced nearer to the convention.

Hotel Rates (per room per night, including breakfast and VAT)

	Cedar Court	Campanile	Midland	Jury's Inn
Double/Twin	£97	£60	£70	£70
Single	£65	£55	£62.50	£64

Further information, including more details about Bradford, FAQs about the convention and forms for membership and hotel booking can be found on our website at

www.eightsquaredcon.org

Find our Facebook page – search for 'Eight Squared Con'
Join our LiveJournal community – 'eightsquaredcon'
Follow us on Twitter – @Eightsquaredcon
Email us – info@eightsquaredcon.org

The Eight Squared Con committee are Juliet McKenna (Chair), Simon Bradshaw (Programme), Steve Davies (Publications), Sue Edwards (Support), Siân Martin (Hotel Liaison), Phil Nanson (Treasurer) and Kari Sperring (Membership).
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